Divisions of Boating and Waterways, Historic Preservation and Off-Highway Vehicles

News Release



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Contacts:

Gloria Sandoval Gloria.Sandoval@parks.ca.gov (916) 651-6700

Susan Cadrecha scadrecha@google.com (404) 273-2648

California State Parks Announces Third Series of Google Maps Street View Tours

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — California State Parks and Google Maps are proud to announce the third installment of panoramic Street View imagery collected by Trekker cameras in state parks. This continuing partnership with Google Maps allows people to glimpse the beauty and grandeur of California's state parks, trails, and beaches from the comfort of their home computer and mobile devices.

"We are excited to continue our partnership with Google and provide visitors from around the world the ability to move beyond static images and experience California's state parks in full 360-degrees," said California State Park's Director Lisa Mangat.

"As a California-based company, we are so pleased to bring this beautiful imagery of our great state to Google Maps for the world to explore and enjoy," said Google's Street View Program Manager Deanna Yick. "We hope taking this Street View virtual tour through California's parks inspires them to visit in person one day."

Trekker is Google Maps' wearable backpack camera, providing users the 360-degree experience of Street View. Hundreds of images are collected as the Trekker wearer travels through state parks, beaches, and walkways, ultimately giving Google Maps users the virtual experience of being at the state park. Some of the newest California state parks featured include:

 <u>Plumas-Eureka State Park</u> is located on the glacier-scored peaks of the Sierra Nevada, and sits at the foot of the granite formation once called "Gold Mountain", approximately one hour northwest of Lake Tahoe. This historic community was established after gold was discovered in 1848 and the area was actively mined until the start of 20th



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century. Today the park offers guided hikes, nature walks, fishing, picnicking, and camping. During winter, visitors can enjoy several cross-country ski or snowshoe loops, as well as the annual Longboard Revival Race with contestants wearing 1860s attire and racing downhill on 9- to 16-foot wooden skis.

- Del Norte Coast Redwoods State Park covers 33,000 acres of old-growth redwood forest extending inland from the Pacific Ocean, just south of Crescent City. The park's steep cliffs, flat river canyons, and rocky beaches attract hikers, mountain bikers, equestrians and anglers. The park also has 145 campsites open each year from spring to fall. But remember to bring your raincoat since this area has the state's heaviest rainfall, averaging 70 inches annually!
- Zmudowski State Beach is one of the lesser known beaches ringing Monterey Bay. Together with Moss Landing, Salinas River, Marina, and Monterey state beaches, and Fort Ord Dunes State Park, visitors can enjoy the beauty and solitude of more than 20 miles of sandy beach. Immediately adjacent to the beach is the Pajaro River Mouth Natural Preserve, a great place for birding and an important nesting site for many species including the endangered snowy plover. Recreational opportunities at the beach include fishing, hiking, and horseback riding, but care should be taken in or near the water due to strong ocean currents.

The full list of new Street Views includes:

- Del Norte Coast Redwoods State Park
- Mandalay State Beach
- Natural Bridges State Beach
- Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park
- Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park, Pfeiffer Falls Trail
- Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park, Valley View Trail
- Plumas Eureka State Park
- Santa Monica State Beach
- Seacliff State Beach
- Twin Lakes State Beach
- Zmudowski State Beach

This project is the result of an ongoing partnership between California State Parks and Google, which was signed in the summer of 2014 with the intent of showcasing some state parks virtually and connecting to a 21st Century audience. Fourteen state park destinations and trails were featured in the first set of images revealed in October 2014. In July, 90 state parks and beaches were added. With the additional images announced today, the public can now view 110 state park destinations from their computers, tablets or smartphones. To view all of the images, please visit www.parks.ca.gov/googlestreetview.

The department's partnership with Google helps further a Transformation initiative that engages a broader base of park visitors and builds a strong coalition of park users from across California.



In 2015, California State Parks developed a plan for reinvigorating the California park experience through a renewed commitment to stewardship of the state's treasured places and broader engagement of people, partners, businesses and communities. The new path, dubbed "Transformation," will alter policies, procedures, guidelines, and organizational structures to support an entrepreneurial, service-oriented, creative and collaborative culture within the state park system. Through the Transformation initiatives, State Parks will deliver a stronger, more robust future for the state park system. The public is invited to be part of the process. To learn more about the Transformation effort, please visit www.parks.ca.gov/transformationteam.

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California's Drought

Every Californian should take steps to conserve water at home, at work and even when recreating outdoors. Find out how at SaveOurWater.com or Drought.CA.Gov.

California State Parks Mission

To provide for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high quality outdoor recreation.

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